

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims presented below replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 1. (Currently amended) An automated method for managing a transaction
2 involving an enterprise and at least one partner in a supply chain, the method comprising:
3 receiving a request for the transaction from an end-user or the partner;
4 accessing real-time data relevant to the transaction from an existing partner
5 system;
6 generating a context for the transaction using the real-time data; and
7 processing the request in the context for the transaction with the end-user or the
8 partner of said receiving step and the existing partner system actively participating in at
9 least one actual transaction.

- 1 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said accessing comprises
2 communicating with a partner coordinator component integrated with the existing partner
3 system.

- 1 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the real-time data comprises
2 transaction data specifying a status for the transaction.

- 1 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the real-time data comprises
2 reference data relating to the partner.

- 1 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein accessing comprises receiving the
2 real-time data in extensible markup language (XML) format.

- 1 6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising converting
2 the real-time data into a format usable by a network system, the network system operable
3 to maintain the context for the transaction.

1 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising maintaining a context for
2 the transaction at a network system.

1 8. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising:
2 identifying the context for the transaction based upon the request; and
3 routing the request for processing of the transaction.

1 9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising sending a response to the
2 request to the end-user or the partner.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein processing comprises initiating a
2 workflow for the transaction at a network system.

1 11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the workflow comprises a
2 plurality of tasks to be performed by the enterprise or partner in order to fulfill the
3 transaction.

1 12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein processing further
2 comprises notifying the partner of any tasks to be performed by the partner.

3 13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the workflow further
4 comprises a routing workflow for routing the request to the enterprise or the partner for
5 performance of the tasks.

6 14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein processing further
7 comprises initiating at least one process manager routine for managing the workflow.

1 15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein processing comprises alerting the
2 partner or the enterprise.

1 16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein processing comprises monitoring
2 a service level associated with the transaction.

1 17. (Currently amended) A system for managing a transaction involving an
2 enterprise and at least one partner in a supply chain, the system comprising:

3 an interface operable to receive a request for the transaction from an end-user or
4 the partner; and

5 a processing facility in communication with the interface, the processing facility
6 operable to access real-time data relevant to the transaction from an existing partner
7 system, the processing facility operable to generate a context for the transaction using the
8 real-time data with the end-user or the partner of said interface operable to receive the
9 request and the existing partner system actively participating in at least one actual
10 transaction, the processing facility operable to process the request in the context for the
11 transaction.

1 18. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the real-time data comprises
2 transaction data specifying a status of the transaction.

1 19. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the real-time data comprises
2 reference data relating to the partner.

1 20. (Original) The system of claim 17, further comprising a database operable to
2 maintain the context for the transaction.

1 21. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein said database comprises a
2 relational database.

1 22. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the real-time data is accessed in
2 extensible markup language (XML) format.

1 23. (Previously presented) The system of claim 17, wherein said processing
2 facility is operable to convert real-time data into a format usable by the system.

1 24. (Original) The system of claim 22, wherein the processing facility is operable
2 to send a response to the request to the end-user or the partner.

1 25. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the processing facility is operable
2 to initiate a workflow for the transaction at a network system.

1 26. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the workflow comprises a
2 plurality of tasks to be performed by the enterprise or the partner in order to fulfill the
3 transaction.

1 27. (Previously presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the processing facility
2 is further operable to notify the partner of any tasks to be performed by the partner.

1 28. (Previously presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the workflow further
2 comprises a routing workflow for routing the request to the enterprise or the partner for
3 performance of the tasks.

1 29. (Previously presented) The system of claim 25, wherein the processing facility
2 is further operable to initiate at least one process manager routine for managing the
3 workflow.

1 30. (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein processing facility is operable to
2 alert the partner of the enterprise.

1 31. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the processing facility is operable
2 to monitor a service level associated with the transaction.

1 32. (Currently amended) A system for managing one or more transactions
2 involving an enterprise and at least one partner in a supply chain, the system comprising:
3 a database operable to store real-time data relating to the one or more transactions,
4 the database operable to maintain a respective context for each transaction; and
5 an execution process engine operable to execute a respective workflow in the
6 context for each transaction using the real-time data actively participating in at least one
7 respective transaction, each workflow comprising a plurality of tasks to be performed by
8 the enterprise or the partner in order to fulfill the respective transaction with the
9 enterprise or the partner actively participating in at least one actual transaction.

1 33. (Original) The system of claim 32, further comprising one or more process
2 manager components operable to manage the workflows.

1 34. (Original) The system of claim 32, wherein at least one business object is
2 generated for each workflow.

1 35. (Original) The system of claim 34, further comprising one or more business
2 object managers operable to manage each business object.

1 36. (Original) The system of claim 32, wherein each workflow comprises a
2 process for transforming the real-time data according to a business policy between the
3 enterprise and the partner.

1 37. (Original) The system of claim 32, wherein the database is operable to
2 maintain one or more business policies relating to the partner.

1 38. (Currently amended) A system for processing a transaction involving an
2 enterprise and at least one partner in a supply chain, the system comprising:

3 a database operable to store real-time data relating to the transaction;

4 at least one process workflow executing on a processing facility, the process
5 workflow operable to process the transaction; and

6 a data access layer operable to provide the process workflow access to the real-
7 time data relating to the transaction, thereby providing a context for the transaction
8 during processing with the partner in the supply chain actively participating in at least
9 one actual transaction.

1 39. (Original) The system of claim 38, wherein the at least one workflow
2 comprises a plurality of tasks to be performed by the enterprise or the partner in order to
3 fulfill the respective transaction.

1 40. (Original) The system of claim 38, further comprising a business data
2 manager component operable to manage the at least one process workflow.

1 41. (Currently amended) A network system for managing a supply chain, the
2 network system comprising:

3 a network execution component operable to administer a transaction involving an
4 enterprise and at least one partner in the supply chain; and

5 a network domain gateway in communication with the network execution
6 component, the network domain gateway operable to communicate with a partner
7 coordinator component integrated with an existing system of the partner to provide real-
8 time data relevant to the transaction from the existing system of the partner network
9 execution component with the real-time data facilitating active processing between the
10 enterprise and the at least one partner in the supply chain for actively participating in at
11 least one actual transaction.

1 42. (Original) The network system of claim 41, wherein the network execution
2 component executes at least one process workflow operable to transform the real-time
3 data relevant to the transaction based on business rules for the supply chain.

1 43. (Original) The network system of claim 41, wherein the network domain
2 gateway comprises a transport component operable to send or receive one or more
3 messages related to the transaction.

1 44. (Original) The network system of claim 41, wherein the network domain
2 gateway comprises a gateway router component operable to route one or more messages
3 relating to the transaction between the existing system of a partner and an existing system
4 of the enterprise.

1 45. (Original) The network system of claim 44, wherein the gateway router
2 component is operable to perform context-based routing of messages related to the
3 transaction.

1 46. (Original) The network system of claim 41, further comprising a messaging
2 system operable to generate one or more messages for the real-time data and to route the
3 messages within the network system.

1 47. (Original) The network system of claim 41, wherein the network execution
2 component is operable to manage at least one process workflow for the transaction.

1 48. (Original) The network system of claim 41, further comprising a database
2 operable to store the real-time data.

1 49. (Original) The network system of claim 48, wherein the database is operable
2 to store a context for the transaction.

1 50. (Original) The network system of claim 48, wherein the database is operable
2 to store one or more policy rules that govern the transaction.